

In the Claims:

20. (Three Times Amended) An acid-dye and coffee stain resistant carpet

comprising:

a backing material; and

stain resistant sheath/core bicomponent face fibers affixed in said backing material and bound thereto;

said face fibers comprising: a core of a first polyamide component; and a sheath occupying from about 3 to [less than about 10] 9 percent of the fiber and substantially or completely covering said core, said sheath comprising a second polyamide component which is inherently chemically compatible with said first polyamide component, said second polyamide component comprising at least one stain resistant polyamide polymer selected from the group consisting of:

(a) $[\text{NH}-(\text{CH}_2)_x-\text{NH}-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_y-\text{CO}]_n$

where x and y may be the same or different integers from about 4 to about 30, the sum of x and y is greater than 13, and n is greater than about 40; and

(b) $[\text{NH}-(\text{CH}_2)_z-\text{CO}]_m$

where z is an integer from about 9 to about 30 and m is greater than about 40;

(c) derivatives of (a) or (b) including polymers substituted with one or more sulfonate, halogenate, aliphatic or aromatic functionality; and

(d) copolymers and blends of (a), (b) and (c);